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Book review: The Cybrarian's Web: An A-Z Guide to 101 Free Web 2.0 Tools and Other Resources

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THE CYBRARIAN'S WEB: AN A-Z GUIDE TO 101 FREE WEB 2.0 TOOLS AND OTHER RESOURCES. Peltier-Davis, Cheryl Ann. Medford, NJ: Information Today, Inc., 2012, xxv+486 pp. (includes index), ebrary ebook \$45 (single user) or EBSCOhost ebook \$45 (single user), print \$49.50, ISBN 978-1-57387-427-4

In this age of continually increasing rapid technological change, one might think that a print book about Web 2.0 tools would be instantly out of date once the book hits the shelves. This assumption however belies the fact that while tools change, the Web itself is increasing in sheer volume. It's daunting for the average person to keep up with the constantly growing list of new web tools.

This is the beauty of *The Cybrarian's Web*. Cheryl Ann Peltier-Davis has compiled an excellent catalogue of 101 free or low cost Web 2.0 applications that all types of libraries can use. The entries range from the familiar (most librarians have probably at least heard of LibraryThing) to the esoteric (take a look at Animoto, a potential tool for spicing up library instruction sessions). The use of the term "catalogue" describes the book well, because Peltier-Davis has deftly utilized her cataloging skills to curate an excellent collection of some of the most useful Web 2.0 tools available to libraries. The fact that these are free or low cost is a boon, particularly in these economically trying times.

The book is organized by listing the tools in alphabetical order, with sub-headings that help to identify what the tool is primarily used for: social network, productivity tool, photo and video hosting service, etc. Each entry provides an overview, lists features, and describes how the tool can be used by "cybrarians". Helpful pictures of each tool interface are included, along with brief "FYI" sections for additional information and a list of references. The "How Cybrarians Can Use This Resource" sections are particularly useful, as one can see how examples of how the tool is being used in application by librarians.

The book includes several helpful appendices: Appendix I provides pointers for keeping up with new Web 2.0 resources, Appendix II offers a glossary of Web 2.0 terms, and Appendix III provides links to the resources mentioned in the book. An index provides quick access for readers that want to jump quickly to particular topics.

The Cybrarian's Web pulls together tools that you've probably heard of (but may learn more about) as well as tools that you probably weren't aware of. Peltier-Davis provides a great service by compiling these into an easily accessible catalogue, but she can't quite escape the rapid change of the Web either: Given the sudden popularity of Pinterest as an example, one can already see a need for *The Cybrarian's Web, Vol. II*.

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